

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A plant package comprising:
a pot having an upper rim, and a lower end, and the pot containing a
~~floral grouping, and the pot contained within a tubular sleeve, the~~
~~plant package produced by the method of:; and~~
providing a tubular sleeve having a sealed lower end, and a decorative
lower portion having a tapered portion, the tubular sleeve having
a first side, a second side, an inner peripheral surface, an outer
peripheral surface, an inner retaining space surrounded and defined
by the inner peripheral surface and within which is positioned the
pot and floral grouping, the decorative lower portion having an
upper edge, and the tubular sleeve initially constructed to have a
flattened condition prior to the positioning of the pot within the
inner retaining space, and wherein the upper decorative edge of
the lower portion is non-linear and the tubular sleeve is free of a
detachable upper portion sized to surround and encompass the
floral grouping disposed within the pot; and

~~opening the tubular sleeve to expose the inner retaining space and disposing the pot and floral grouping contained therein into the inner retaining space.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 1 wherein ~~in the step of providing a tubular sleeve the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve has a drainage hole therein.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 1 wherein ~~in the step of opening the tubular sleeve at least a portion of the upper edge of the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve is positioned near the upper rim of the pot.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 1 wherein ~~the decorative lower portion is secured about the pot via a bonding material.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve is sized to be substantially adjacent to an outer surface of the pot.

6. (Currently Amended) A plant package comprising:

a pot having an upper rim and a lower end, and the pot containing a floral grouping, ~~and the pot contained within a tubular sleeve, the plant package produced by the method of: ; and~~

~~providing a tubular sleeve having a sealed lower end, and having a decorative lower portion having a tapered portion, the tubular sleeve having a first side, a second side, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface, and an inner retaining space surrounded and defined by the inner peripheral surface and within which is positioned the pot and floral grouping, the decorative lower portion having a non-linear upper edge, and the tubular sleeve initially constructed to have a flattened condition prior to the positioning of the pot within the inner retaining space, and the sealed lower end having a gusset therein and the tubular sleeve is free of a detachable upper portion sized to surround and encompass the floral grouping disposed within the pot; and~~

~~opening the tubular sleeve to expose the inner retaining space and disposing the pot and floral grouping contained therein into the inner retaining space.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 6 wherein ~~in the step of providing a tubular sleeve~~ the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve has a drainage hole therein.

8. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 6 wherein ~~in the step of opening the tubular sleeve~~ at least a portion of the upper edge of the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve is positioned near the upper rim of the pot.

9. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 6 wherein the decorative lower portion is secured about the pot via a bonding material.

10. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 6 wherein at least a portion of the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve is sized to be substantially adjacent to an outer surface of the pot.

11. (Currently Amended) A plant package comprising:
a pot having an upper rim and a lower end, and the pot containing a
~~floral grouping, and the pot contained within a tubular sleeve, the~~
~~plant package produced by the method of:; and~~

providing a tubular sleeve having a sealed lower end, and having a decorative lower portion having a tapered portion, the tubular sleeve having a first side, a second side, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface, and an inner retaining space surrounded and defined by the inner peripheral surface and within which is positioned the pot and floral grouping, the decorative lower portion having a non-linear upper edge, and the tubular sleeve initially constructed to have a flattened condition prior to the positioning of the pot within the inner retaining space, and the sealed lower end having a horizontal seal therein and the tubular sleeve is free of a detachable upper portion sized to surround and encompass the floral grouping disposed within the pot, and opening the tubular sleeve to expose the inner retaining space and disposing the pot and floral grouping contained therein into the inner retaining space.

12. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 11 wherein ~~in the step of providing a tubular sleeve the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve has a drainage hole therein.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 11 wherein in the ~~step of opening the tubular sleeve~~ at least a portion of the non-linear upper edge of the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve is positioned near the upper rim of the pot.

14. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 11 wherein the decorative lower portion is secured about the pot via a bonding material.

15. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 11 wherein at least a portion of the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve is sized to be substantially adjacent to an outer surface of the pot.

16. (Currently Amended) A plant package comprising:
a pot having an upper rim and a lower end, and the pot containing a floral grouping, ~~and the pot contained within a tubular sleeve, the plant package produced by the method of:; and~~
~~providing a tubular sleeve having a sealed lower end, and having a decorative lower portion having a tapered portion, the tubular sleeve having a first side, a second side, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface, and an inner retaining space surrounded and defined by the inner peripheral surface and within~~

which is positioned the pot and floral grouping, the decorative lower portion having an upper edge and, the tubular sleeve initially constructed to have a flattened condition prior to the positioning of the pot within the inner retaining space, and wherein the decorative lower portion comprises a base portion having a plurality of portions extending therefrom and comprising a skirt portion and the tubular sleeve is free of a detachable upper portion sized to surround and encompass the floral grouping disposed within the pot; and

~~opening the tubular sleeve to expose the inner retaining space and disposing the pot and floral grouping contained therein into the inner retaining space.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 16 wherein ~~in the step of providing a tubular sleeve the decorative base of the tubular sleeve~~ portion has a drainage hole therein.

18. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 16 wherein ~~in the step of opening the tubular sleeve at least a portion of the upper edge of the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve is positioned near the upper rim of the pot.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 16 wherein the decorative lower portion is secured about the pot via a bonding material.

20. (Currently Amended) The plant package of claim 16 wherein at least a portion of the decorative lower portion of the tubular sleeve is sized to be substantially adjacent to an outer surface of the pot.